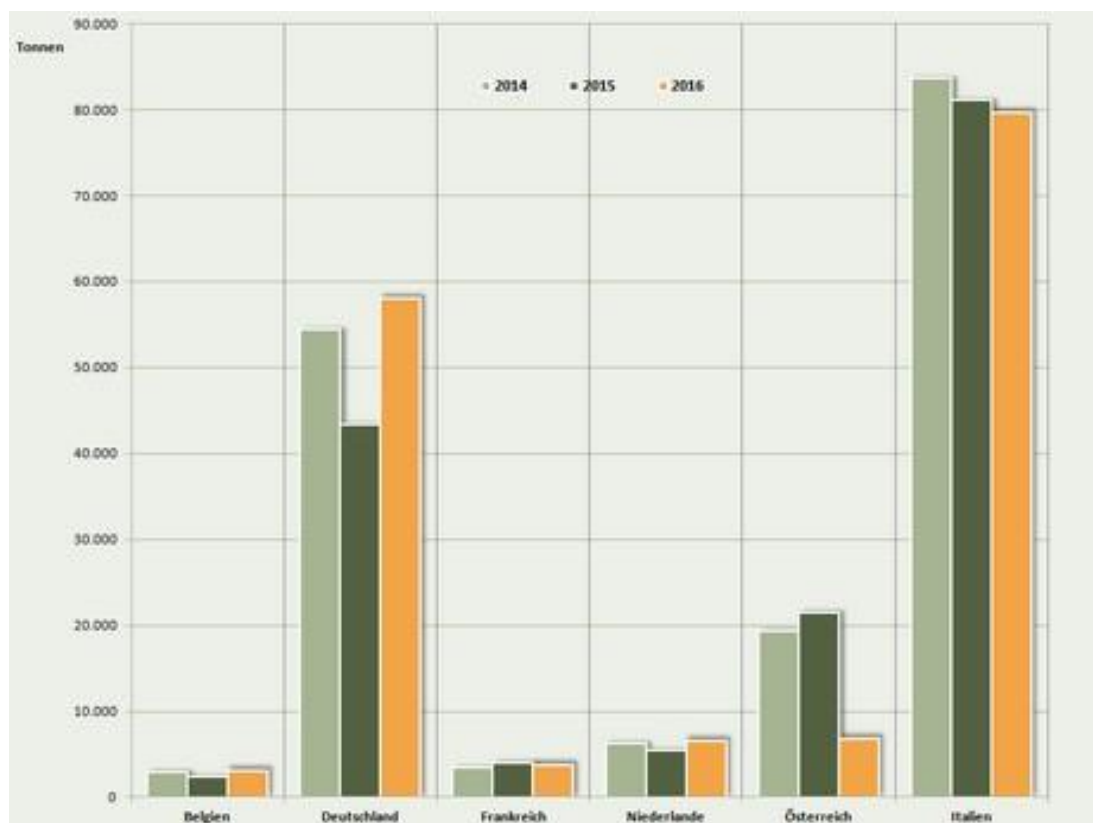


2016: Organic apple and pear crop in Europe

The European organic apple and organic pear crop in 2016 has totalled just under 160,000 metric tonnes, which is almost exactly the same amount as last year's crop. However, due to the frost affecting the blossoms, there are some considerable regional differences. In general, the areas affected by the frost are Austria, south Germany and the Vinschgau Valley. Good crops, as seen in 2014, were harvested in the more northern regions of Europe, such as Germany, the Netherlands and Belgium, but also in parts of Italy and France.



The varieties of European apples have shifted due to the regional harvest differences. There were good harvests with the Jonagold group apples and with Elstar, however harvests were more meagre with Gala, Golden Delicious, Topaz and Pinova apples.

The quality of the fruit is more variable. Aside from the frost during bloom, there were very good weather conditions this year in many regions. During and before the harvest especially, there was perfect weather with lots of sun and little rain.

The organic market has grown slightly from year to year. This is also reflected in the increased sales volumes in autumn 2016 compared to previous years. It should also be noted that this season, home gardens seem to have grown weaker crops, which also increases demand for shop-bought fruit and vegetables.

In the general consideration of the European organic fruit market, this year too, organic production is associated with higher risks and higher costs. This is generally reflected in market development.

Lien article : <http://www.freshplaza.com/article/167725/2016-Organic-apple-and-pear-crop-in-Europe>